IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A apparatus comprising:

means for displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects ordered automatically in chronological order and grouped by media objects relating to one another;

means for recording a ~~a~~ an audio narration, to create a new media object, to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

means for displaying a second list of reduced visual representations of the plurality of media objects ordered manually, the second list having a ~~a~~ an audio narration associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

means for navigating among the reduced visual representations; and

means for displaying the plurality of media objects.

2.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the first list comprises of imported stories, and the second list comprises of authored stories.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the display means displays imported stories, the authored stories, and/or a representation for each associated audio clip or a selected object in the imported stories or the authored stories.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4 wherein the imported stories are displayed on a first track, and the authored stories are displayed on a second track and on a third track, the authored story on the third track being a story being created.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising means for moving the authored story from the second track to the third track such that a user can edit the authored story.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein means for displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects comprises means for displaying a series of audio files.

8. (Original) The system defined in Claim 7 wherein the audio files are from a group comprising MP3 files, Liquid Audio files, and RealJukebox files, WAV files, or other compressed or uncompressed audio file formats.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein means for displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects comprises means for displaying a plurality of video clips.

10. (Original) The system defined in Claim 9 wherein the video clips are from a group comprising MPEG files, QuickTime files, AVI files, and RealVideo files.

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11.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects ordered automatically in chronological order and grouped by media objects relating to one another;

recording a an audio narration, creating a new media object, to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

displaying a second list of reduced visual representations of the plurality of media objects ordered manually, the second list having the audio narration associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

navigating among the reduced visual representations; and

displaying the plurality of media objects.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the first list comprises of imported stories, and the second list comprises of authored stories.

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein displaying the plurality of media objects comprises displaying imported stories, the authored stories, and/or a representation for each associated audio clip for a selected object in the imported stories or the authored stories.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the imported stories are displayed on a first track, and the authored stories are displayed on a second track and on a third track, the authored story on the third track being a story under construction.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising moving the authored story from the second track to the third track such that a user can edit the authored story.

17. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects comprises displaying a series of audio files.

18. (Original) The method defined in Claim 17 wherein the audio files are from a group comprising MP3 files, Liquid Audio files, and RealJukebox files, WAV files, or other compressed or uncompressed audio file formats.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects comprises displaying a plurality of video clips.

20. (Original) The method defined in Claim 19 wherein the video clips are from a group comprising MPEG files, QuickTime files, AVI files, and RealVideo files.

21. (Currently Amended) A system comprising

a storage device having a plurality of stories, each story comprising of a plurality of objects; and

a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor:

display a first story track for a plurality of imported stories which have objects automatically ordered in chronological order,

record a an audio narration, to create a new media object, to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

display a second story track for a plurality of authored stories including the recorded audio narration,

display a full size image of a selected object in the story,

process navigation input from a user, the navigation input comprising moving a track selection from one story track to another story track, moving an object selection from one object to another object, and

process operational input from the user, the operation input comprising playing the story, stopping recording or the playing, and saving the story.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein process operational input from the user further comprising recording a narration for the selected object.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the processor is further operable to display a third story track for a story being constructed, and wherein the

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navigation input further comprising adding an object to the third track, and removing an object from the third track.

24. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the processor is further operable to display a plurality of narrations associated with the selected object.

26. (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising an object input device to input new objects, the new objects comprising imported stories, digital photographs, video clips, pages of documents, presentation slides, audio clips, and web pages.

27. (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising a docking cradle for communication and an output device to send a story to a recipient's email address in the form of email attachment.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27 further comprising sending the story to a web server, assigning unique URL to the story, and sending the URL to the recipient by email.

29. (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising a recording device to record a narration for the audio clip, the recording device being one of a group comprising voice activated recording and microphone recording.

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30.   (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein selected object is in one or more stories, selected object has one or more associated audio clips, each audio clip is associated with one story, and each audio clip has zero or one narration.

31.   (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein displaying an audio clip comprises displaying all audio clips associated with the selected object, and wherein the audio clip associated with the story is displayed as a current audio clip, the current audio clip is played before all other audio clips.

32.   (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the story under construction in the third story track is placed at the end of the second story track when the construction is completed and wherein the story is saved in the storage device.

33.   (Original) The system of claim 32 further comprising grouping objects in the third story track and recording a narration for each object, and wherein saving the story comprises saving the objects and the associated audio clips.

34.   (Original) The system of claim 32 wherein the story and the associated objects are saved as files in the storage device using a markup language format.

35.   (Original) The system of claim 34 wherein the markup language format comprises HTML, SMIL, or XML.

36. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein playing the story comprises

selecting a story from the first track, from the second track, or from the third track using the navigation input,

activating a play operation, and

viewing the full size image corresponding to each of the plurality of objects in the selected story.

37. (Original) The system of claim 36 wherein viewing the image comprises

selecting the objects in the story in a sequence, wherein the sequence is from beginning of the story to end of the story, and

playing the audio clip corresponding to the selected object.

38. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

selecting a plurality of objects, the selected objects coming from a plurality of stories displayed on a first track having one or more image objects ordered chronologically and displayed thereon or a second track containing one or more previously generated stories of one or more image objects stored as a story, the selected objects placed in a third track to form a story;

recording a <u>an audio</u> narration<u>, to create a new media object,</u> for each selected object and associating the narration with the selected object;

saving the authored story in the second track; and

playing the story.

39.   (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising

displaying the import track, the author track, and the working track at all times,

displaying a full size image of the selected object,

displaying one or more audio clips associated with the selected object.

40   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the audio clip for the selected

object associated with the story is displayed as a current audio clip, the current audio clip

is played before all other audio clips for the selected object.

41.   (Original) The method of claim 40 wherein playing the audio clip further

comprises selecting an alternative audio clip other than the current audio clip.

42.   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the selected object has one or

more associated audio clips, wherein each audio clip associated with one authored story,

and wherein each audio clip has zero or one narration.

43.   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein each story in the import track

or in the author track has a different colored background from its adjacent stories.

44.   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein playing the story comprises

selecting a story from the import track or from the author track, and

viewing the full size image corresponding to each object in the selected story.

45.   (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein viewing the full size image comprises

selecting the objects in the story in a sequence, wherein the sequence is from beginning of the story to end of the story, and

playing the audio clips associated with the selected objects.

46.   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the authored story and its associated objects are saved as files using a markup language format.

47.   (Original) The method of claim 46 wherein the format of the markup language comprises HTML, SMIL, or XML.

48.   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the objects in the import track, the author track and the working track are displayed as thumbnail images or reduced representation of the corresponding objects.

49.   (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein selecting an object comprises displaying the thumbnail images in high resolution if the selection is done in standard speed and displaying the thumbnail images in low resolution if the selection is done in high speed.

50.   (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising not displaying the image and the associated audio clips when the selection is done in high speed.

51.   (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising receiving new objects from external devices, the new objects comprising imported stories, digital photographs, video clips, pages of documents, presentation slides, audio clips, and web pages.

52.   (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising sending a story to a recipient's email address in the form of an email attachment.

53.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 38 wherein each imported story is an automatically constructed group, each imported story is visually distinguishable from another, and each authored story is visually distinguishable from another.

54.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 53 wherein each story on the same track has a different colored background, and wherein each story is separated from the other by a gap.

55.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 54 wherein the gap represents a time difference between story creation times.

56.   (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising a pointing device configured to enable the user to perform track selection, object selection, and moving of

the selected object from one track to another track, the pointing device being one from a group comprising a mouse, an external joy stick, a voice activated control device, a touch screen, a track pad, and a cursor control device.

57.   (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising an attached video camera, the video camera used to add new objects to the first track.

58.   (Previously Amended) The system of claim 21 wherein the objects in the first track, the second track and the third track are displayed as thumbnail images or in reduced representation of the corresponding objects.

59.   (Previously Amended) The system of claim 58 wherein a first thumbnail image for each story is used to represent the corresponding story when the tracks are configured to display in collapse form.

60.   (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein moving the object selection from one object to another object comprises displaying the thumbnail images in high resolution if the movement is in standard speed and displaying the thumbnail images in low resolution if the movement is in high speed.

61.   (Original) The system of claim 60 further comprising not displaying the thumbnail image and the associated audio clips when the movement is in high speed.

62.   (Previously Amended) A system comprising:

means for storing digital stories, the digital stories comprising of imported stories and authored stories, each story comprising of a plurality of objects, wherein objects in the imported stories are ordered in chronological order;

means for authoring stories using stored objects;

means for displaying story tracks associated with the imported stories and the authored stories; and

means for navigating among the story tracks and among the objects on a story track.

63.   (Original) The system of claim 62 wherein means for displaying story tracks comprises means for displaying imported stories in a first track, means for displaying authored stories in a second track, and means for displaying a story being constructed in a third track.

64.   (Previously Amended) The system of claim 62 wherein means for authoring stories comprises means for selecting an object, means for recording an audio narration to be associated with the selected object, and means for saving the authored stories in the storing means.

65.   (Original) The system of claim 64 wherein the authored stories are saved using XML, SMIL, or HTML file format.

66.   (Original) The system of claim 62 further comprising means for displaying a full size image of the selected object, means for displaying one or more audio clips associated with the selected object, and means for playing the audio clip.